

REMARKS

The above-identified application is United States application serial number 10/750,119 filed on December 31, 2003. Claims 1-41 are pending in the application. Claims 15-41 are allowed. Claims 1, 10-12 and 14 are rejected. Claims 2-9 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended Claims 10-12 to correct dependency from Claim 1 to the intended Claim 8, thereby correcting antecedent basis of terms "the host", "the entity-identifier x" and "the entered PIN" in lines 2 and 4 respectively.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1 and 14 are rejected under 35 USC. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Erfani et al. (US 20030196106 A1) in view of Balph et al. (US 5,631,962). Claims 2-9 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Applicant has canceled Claim 1 and amended Claims 2, 5, 6, and 13 into independent form including limitations of the base claim as suggested by the Examiner so that all Claims 2-9 and 13 are allowable. Claim 14 is amended to depend from Claim 13 which is allowable after amendment.

New Claim 42 is added which includes limitations of previous Claim 14 dependent upon amended Claim 6 which is allowable as amended.

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Allowed Claims

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's notification of allowability of Claims 15-41.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe Claims 2-42 are in form for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. No new matter has been added. In the event it would facilitate prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (949) 251-0250.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, Central Number at (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below:

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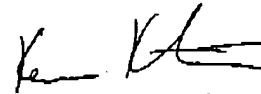
Jay C. Ngo

(Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)

December 15, 2005

(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



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